

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08
NRC-05 DODE-00 FEA-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /097 W
-----162108Z 057075 /61

R 161103Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0634
INFO ERDA WASHDC
ERDA GERMANTOWN MD
AMEMBASSY BERN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, FR, US
SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF IRRADIATED FUEL ELEMENTS FOR
REPROCESSING

REF: (A) PARIS 03360; (B) STATE 0530

1. REFTEL B SET FORTH TEXT OF SIEVERING TO SPAAK
LETTER OF EARLY JANUARY APPROVING TRANSFER OF IRRADI-
ATED FUEL ELEMENTS FROM THE MOHLEBERG REACTOR IN
SWITZERLAND TO FRANCE FOR REPROCESSING. REFTEL A CON-
TAINS GOF FOREIGN MINISTRY RESPONSE RAISING SOME
QUESTIONS REGARDING THE FUTURE PROCEDURES FOR USING THE
SEPARATED PLUTONIUM.

2. THE FOLLOWING LETTER IS THE PROPOSED USG RESPONSE
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TO THE FRENCH LETTER CONTAINED REFTEL A. IT IS BASED
ON RECENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MFA SCIENCE DIRECTOR
NAZELLE AND ERDA/AIA SIEVERING AND BETWEEN NAZELLE AND
EMBASSY SCICOUN. AT THIS POINT IT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE
TO THE FRENCH AS A FULL RESPONSE TO THEIR LETTER:
DEAR MR. DE NAZELLE: WITH REFERENCE TO YOUR LETTER TO
ME OF JANUARY 31, 1977, AND SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS ON

THE SUBJECT OF THAT LETTER WHICH YOU HAVE HAD WITH MR. NELSON SIEVERING, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, ERDA, I WISH TO CONFIRM THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDINGS OF MY GOVERNMENT:

1. THE APPROVAL GIVEN BY ERDA IN MR. SIEVERING'S LETTER TO MR. SPAAK OF DECEMBER 30, 1976, IS FIRM AND YOUR UNDERSTANDING ON THIS POINT EXPLAINED IN YOUR LETTER OF JANUARY 31, 1977, IS CORRECT.

2. THE PLUTONIUM SEPARATED FROM THE MOHLEBERG REACTOR FUEL ELEMENTS REPROCESSED AT LA HAGUE WILL BE STORED UNDER APPROPRIATE PHYSICAL SECURITY MEASURES CONSISTENT WITH CATEGORY I OF THE LONDON SUPPLIERS GUIDELINES AND BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

3. WE NOTE THAT FOR PHYSICAL SECURITY REASONS THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WISHES TO AVOID UNNECESSARY STORAGE OF SEPARATED PLUTONIUM AND WE AGREE THAT SHOULD THIS SEPARATED PLUTONIUM NOT BE EXPORTED WITH OUR AGREEMENT, IT MAY BE USED AS FUEL IN THE DOMESTIC NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMS OF ELECTRICITE DE FRANCE.

NORMAL CLOSING, SIGNED SALMON.

3. THE FRENCH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IS UNABLE TO ACCEPT THE ABOVE LETTER IF WE EXPLICITLY STATE THAT THE SEPARATED PLUTONIUM MAY BE USED ONLY IN FRANCE WITHOUT OUR PRIOR APPROVAL; TO BE USED IN DOMESTIC EDF PROGRAMS HAS THE SAME PHYSICAL BOUNDARY BUT NOT THE SAME POLITICAL CONNOTATION. THE MINISTRY MAY NOT ACCEPT A LETTER IF IT STATES THAT FRANCE AGREES THAT THE US MUST CONCUR IN THE RE-EXPORTATION OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SEPARATED PLUTONIUM TO ANOTHER COUNTRY, INCLUDING ANY MEMBER OF THE COMMON MARKET.

4. WE AWAIT DEPARTMENT/ERDA GUIDANCE ON THE ABOVE PROPOSED RESPONSE TO THE GOF.

GAMMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, FISSIONABLE MATERIALS TRANSFER, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS07661
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770090-0847
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770355/aaaabvuc.tel
Line Count: 103
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dce980b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PARIS 3360, 77 STATE 530
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3094038
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRANSFER OF IRRADIATED FUEL ELEMENTS FOR REPROCESSING
TAGS: TECH, FR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dce980b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009